

REMARKS

Paragraph [0001] of the Specification has been amended to update the status information of U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/718,801.

Claims 27-55 remain pending in this application.

The pending claims stand rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting over claims 1-5 of U.S. Patent No. 6,602,294. In response to the double patenting rejections, and without admitting the propriety of that rejection, the assignee, TransTissue Technologies GmbH, is filing herewith a terminal disclaimer over U.S. Patent No. 6,602,294.

In view of the foregoing, reconsideration and allowance of this application are earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

JONES DAY

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By: 

David A. Randall
Reg. No. 37,217

Jones Day
555 S. Flower Street, Fiftieth Floor
Los Angeles, California 90071-2300
Telephone: (213) 489-3939
Facsimile: (213) 243-2539
Customer No.: 34026